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*Weekly Situation Report  
on  
International Terrorism*

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## WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

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#### Articles:

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ERP to Form Confederation of Terrorist Groups and Re-emphasize Urban Operations (Page 6)

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ERP to Form Confederation of Terrorist Groups and Re-emphasize Urban Operations

3.3(b)(1)

In late April [redacted]

[redacted] the ERP had recently decided to form a loose confederation with other Argentine terrorist groups in order to coordinate terrorist operations more efficiently and to develop a common strategy. This group, to be called the National Liberation Front (FLN), will be military, not political in nature, and each supporting organization will maintain its own identity and political orientation. The Che Guevara Faction of the Armed Liberation Forces (FAL) has already agreed to join the front, and the ERP is currently discussing the matter with other FAL factions and with several small Trotskyist groups.

The probable reason for this move by the ERP is to strengthen the organization's operational capabilities in urban areas. Since 1974 guerrilla warfare, particularly in Tucuman province, has been the prime ERP concern. This has caused a significant deterioration of ERP political strength and capabilities in the cities, particularly in Buenos Aires. ERP has further been weakened by a successful police raid against its regional headquarters in Buenos Aires in mid-March. As a result of the raid Argentine authorities confiscated membership lists, information on safe site locations, and other important ERP internal documents. ERP also lost a national printing and distribution mechanism in a police raid in late January.

It does not seem likely that the Montoneros will join the FLN at the present time because of basic differences in philosophy between the ERP and the Montoneros. Recently a leader of the Workers' Revolutionary Party (PRT), the political umbrella of the ERP, was highly critical of the Montoneros, stating that they had become an instrument of nationalistic, petit bourgeois interests and were in effect an antirevolutionary force in Argentina. He said the Montoneros were misusing and misunderstanding the concept of revolutionary violence by using it as a defense mechanism rather than an instrument to attain political objectives, and that this policy was clearly self-defeating. Further, the PRT/ERP views the indiscriminate use of violence as politically counterproductive.

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3.3(b)(1)

ERP's re-emphasis on urban terrorism does not bode well for foreign interests in Argentina. It is quite possible that ERP will try some sort of terrorist spectacular in order to bolster its sagging revolutionary credentials. On 1 May Argentine authorities [redacted] had uncovered a detailed surveillance report on the movements of the U.S. agricultural attache, which indicates advanced operational planning to kidnap him. The report was found in an automobile used in a 26 April ERP attempt to assassinate a Federal Police captain in Buenos Aires Province. The agricultural attache has since left Argentina. [redacted]

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~~SECRET~~I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:

NR

Target: U.S. OFFICIALPlace: Argentina,  
Buenos AiresDate: Current

\*\* The U.S. Agricultural Attache in Buenos Aires apparently has been the target of an ERP kidnap plot, according to the U.S. Embassy. In late April the Argentine police found ERP documents detailing the attache's travel pattern. The attache was scheduled to depart Buenos Aires 3 May for a new assignment in Montevideo. As the ERP has friendly relations with Uruguayan terrorists, the attache will continue to take precautions.

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\*\* Indicates a new threat reported for the first time.

\* Indicates a revision of a threat reported in previous issues.

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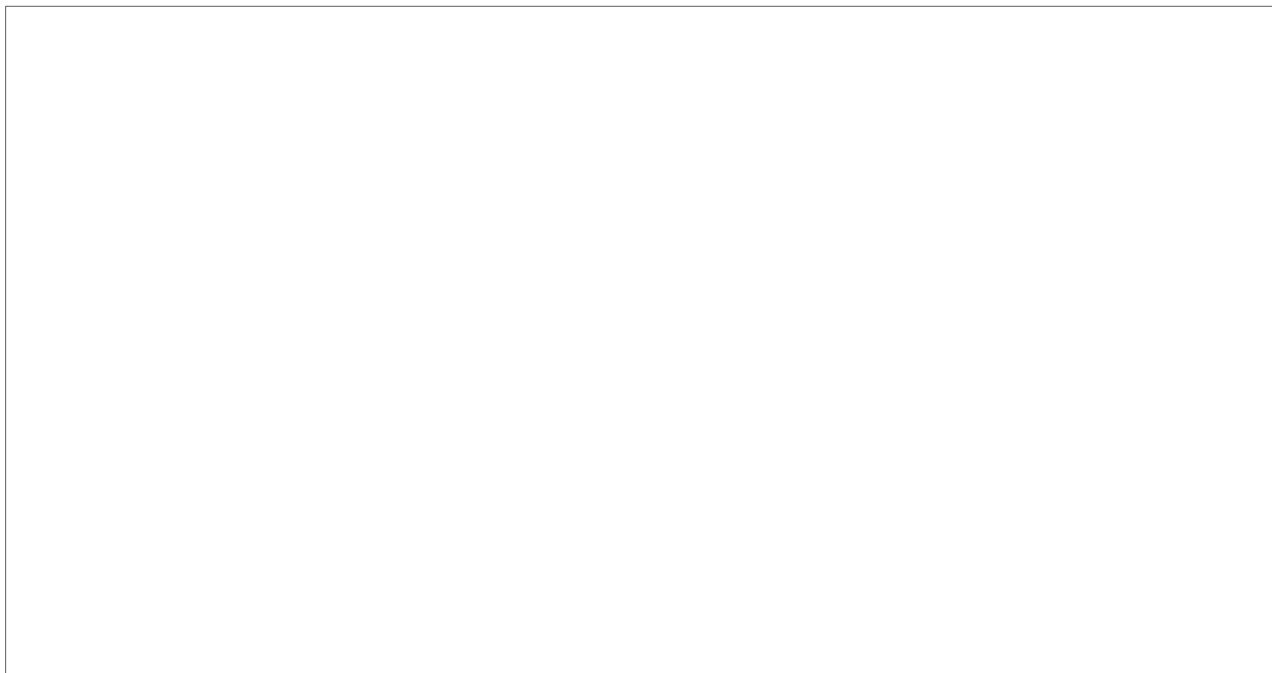
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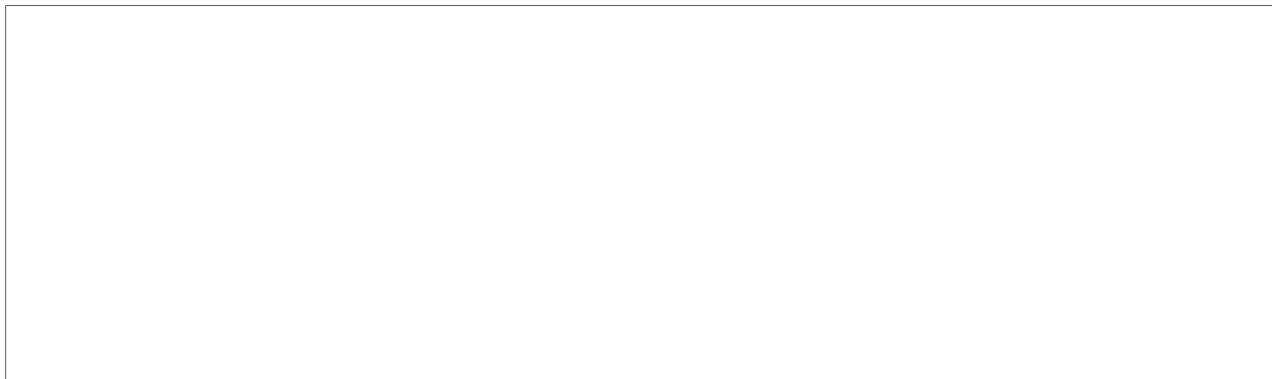
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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:Western Hemisphere, Including the United StatesTarget: U.S. DEFENSE  
ATTACHEPlace: Argentina,  
Buenos AiresDate: Current

\*\* The U.S. Defense Attache has been receiving telephone threats from an anonymous caller, according to the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires. The security watch committee will meet to assess these threats. In late March there were reports of the possible surveillance of the Defense Attache.

3.5(c)

Target: U.S. OFFICIALPlace: Argentina,  
Buenos AiresDate: Current

The U.S. Agricultural Attache in Buenos Aires apparently was the target of an ERP kidnap plot. He was reassigned to Montevideo but the Department of Agriculture has now decided to have him return to the U.S.

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The Fourth International and Argentine Terrorism (Page 3)

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~~SECRET~~The Fourth International and Argentine Terrorism

The involvement in Argentine terrorism by the Trotskyist Fourth International (FI) based in Paris may have been greater and more direct than previously thought. During the second week in May, Argentine federal police raided a number of safe sites belonging to the Revolutionary Communist League (LCR), a group mainly composed of members of the old Red Faction of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP). As a result of the raids, the police arrested most of the members of the LCR Secretariat, uncovered caches containing over 200 weapons and 100,000 rounds of ammunition as well as a large quantity of documents.

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[redacted] the police have established that the LCR gave \$50,000 to the Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) and \$50,000 to the FI in Paris, through the FI representative in Argentina. The money came from the kidnapping of Aaron Beilinson, an engineer in La Plata. One of the Secretariat members confessed to the police that he was a Brazilian citizen (as were several of the other Secretariat members), a former member of the French Communist League, and had worked in the Latin American Commission of the FI. He then travelled to Argentina, joined the ERP and helped to form the Red Faction of the ERP when it split off from the majority ERP faction in mid-1973.

The Argentine government plans to use the information garnered in the raids to prove that foreign mercenaries are fighting in Argentina and that the FI is involved in internal Argentine matters. The government will also attempt to link the LCR with the ERP and Robert Santucho in an effort to discredit that organization. The government also plans to release official court documents so that the FI leadership will know that the captured LCR members talked in detail during their interrogations, thus hoping to discourage the FI from rebuilding the LCR. (Comment: Although the political wing of the ERP, the Worker's Revolutionary Party (PRT), is basically Trotskyist and has been a member of the FI, it is believed that neither the ERP nor the PRT were ever under the direct control of the FI.) [redacted]

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I. Terrorist Threats and Plans:Western Hemisphere, Including the United StatesTarget: U.S. DEFENSE  
ATTACHEPlace: Argentina,  
Buenos AiresDate: Current

The U.S. Defense Attache has been receiving telephone threats from an anonymous caller. In late March there were reports of the possible surveillance of the Defense Attache. Increased security measures are being employed, including the use of a body-guard, until the Attache leaves in early July.

3.5(c)

Target: U.S. OFFICIALPlace: Argentina,  
Buenos AiresDate: Current

\*\* An unidentified individual telephoning the U.S. Commercial Attache advised the Attache's secretary that an important official would be kidnapped on 12, 13, or 14 May at his home, according to an Embassy report. The address the caller gave for the kidnapping is in the block in which the Embassy has its temporary living quarters. The two residents are moving out of these quarters.

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Target: U.S. OFFICIALPlace: Argentina,  
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An unidentified individual telephoning the U.S. Commercial Attache advised the Attache's secretary that an important official would be kidnapped on 12, 13, or 14 May at his home. Although the dates have passed, this may still be a viable threat given the situation in Argentina.

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